



Summary of Recreational Groundfish Regulations for 2006 Monterey South-Central Management Area

*Ocean waters between 37°11' N. latitude (Pigeon Point) and 36°00' N. latitude (near Lopez Point)
Includes a portion of San Mateo County, all of Santa Cruz County, and a portion of Monterey County*



Species	Time Period ^{2,3}	Depth Limit ^{2,3}	Daily Bag Limit ²	Min. Size Limit ^{1,2,4}
RCG Complex (including all species of <u>Rockfish</u> , <u>Cabazon</u> and <u>Greenlings</u> as defined in Section 1.91)	<u>Boat-based Anglers³</u> : Open: July-Nov Closed: Jan-June, Dec <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers³</u> : Open year-round SEE NOTE AT END OF TABLE	May only be taken or possessed in waters <i>less than</i> 120 ft (20 fm) deep SEE EXCEPTION AT END OF TABLE	10 fish in combination per person; see sub-limits for cabazon, greenlings and bocaccio	See individual species and groups below
Canary and Yelloweye Rockfishes, Cowcod	CLOSED all year; NO RETENTION		NO RETENTION (zero)	
Bocaccio	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	1 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	10" total length
Cabazon	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	1 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	15" total length
Kelp or Rock Greenling	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	1 fish per person; also included in the 10-fish aggregate RCG Complex bag limit	12" total length
Ocean Whitefish	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	10 fish per person	none
California Sheephead	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	5 fish per person	12" total length
California Scorpionfish	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	5 fish per person	10" total length
Lingcod	<u>Boat-based Anglers³</u> : Open: July-Nov Closed: Jan-June, Dec <u>Divers, Shore-based Anglers³</u> : Open: Apr-Nov Closed: Jan-Mar, Dec	Same as RCG Complex, above	2 fish per person	24" total length
Other Federal Groundfish ⁵ (see Section 1.91)	Same as RCG Complex, above	Same as RCG Complex, above	See regulations for individual species	See regulations for individual species
Leopard Shark ⁶	<u>Boat-based Anglers³ within Elkhorn Slough:</u> Open all year <u>Outside of Elkhorn Slough:</u> Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers³:</u> Open all year	<u>Boat-based Anglers³ within Elkhorn Slough:</u> No depth restrictions <u>Outside of Elkhorn Slough:</u> Same as RCG Complex, above <u>Divers, Shore-Based Anglers³:</u> No depth restrictions	3 fish per person	36" total length

1. See regulations for information on gear restrictions and fillet lengths.
2. Subject to in-season change. Call the Recreational Groundfish Fishing Regulations Hotline at **(831) 649-2801**, visit the Marine Region Web site at **www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd**, send an e-mail to **AskMarine@dfg.ca.gov**, or call your nearest DFG office for the latest information.
3. Divers and shore-based anglers are exempt from restrictions affecting the RCG complex, ocean whitefish, California scorpionfish, California sheephead, and other federally managed groundfish (except for lingcod). The following definitions describe boat-based and shore-based anglers, and divers:
 - Boat-based anglers are fishermen that fish from boats or vessels of any size or any other type of floating object, including kayaks and float tubes.
 - Shore-based anglers are fishermen that fish from beaches, banks, piers, jetties, breakwaters, docks and other manmade structures connected to the shore.
 - Divers are spear fishermen entering the water either from the shore or from a boat or other floating object.
4. Total length is the longest straight-line measurement from the tip of the head with the mouth closed to the end of the longest lobe of the tail. A measurement illustration is available at www.dfg.ca.gov/mrd/measurement.pdf.
5. Pacific sanddab, butter sole, curlfin sole, flathead sole, rex sole, rock sole, sand sole and starry flounder are exempt from restrictions that affect other federally managed groundfish ONLY when taken using the following gear: up to 12 No. 2 (or smaller) hooks and up to 2 lb. of weight.
6. The sport fishery for leopard shark inside Elkhorn Slough is exempt from restrictions that affect other federally managed groundfish.

EXCEPTION: These fish may be possessed in closed waters only aboard vessels in transit with no fishing gear in the water.

NOTE: Gray areas denote regulations that may change later in 2006 as a result of regulation changes proposed by the Department. See Footnote 2 for ways to keep informed of in-season regulation changes.